

Constitution Committee Motion #03
Proposed Amendments Deleting Most References to the Secretary of the Interior

The Committee received feedback objecting to those parts of our Constitution that give the Secretary of the Interior (sometimes extensive) control over many aspects of our Tribal governance. Thus, the Committee recommends deleting from the Constitution most (but not all) references to the Secretary of the Interior. (Note: The Committee voted to retain the Secretary's role in Constitutional elections, but to change the language to describe that role as merely administrative, with no discretion over the substance of the Tribe's Constitution.)

Committee Recommendations

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- Article II
 - Section 1
 - Subsection a
 - Line 16: **insert** a period (“.”) to end the sentence after General Council
 - Line 17: **delete** “subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.”
 - Section 3
 - Lines 28-29: **delete** “, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior;”

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- Article V
 - Section 1
 - Subsection b
 - Lines 12-13: **delete** “, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior”
 - Subsection h
 - Line 26: **delete** “subject to the approval of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs”

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- Article XV
 - Lines 5-6: after “until” **delete** “it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior” and **replace it with** “the election results approving such amendment shall have been certified by the Secretary of the Interior”
- Article XVI
 - Line 16
 - **delete** (both uses) “his approval” and **replace it with** “their certification”